

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-17, and 19 are all the claims pending in the present application, claims 10 and 18 having been cancelled as indicated herein. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 4, 10, 16, and 18 contain allowable subject and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In summary, the Examiner applies the same primary reference, Wilson et al. (US Patent No. 5,539,436), as set forth in the previous Office Action, and adds a new secondary reference, Murata et al. (US Patent No. 5,428,378), to support the rejections of claims 14 and 15. Specifically, claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-13, 17 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Wilson, and claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wilson in view of Murata.

§102(b) Rejections (Wilson) - Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-13, 17 and 19

Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-13, 17 and 19 are rejected for the reasons set forth on pages 2-7 of the present Office Action.

With respect to independent claim 1, in the previous Amendment, Applicants argued that Wilson does not disclose or suggest a carriage part that accommodates a liquid ejection head and moves along a vicinity of the supply arranging part, as recited in claim 1. In the *Response to Arguments* section of the present Office Action, the Examiner alleges:

Wilson et al. shows that the housing part 12 is part of carriage assembly 18. As assembly 18 moves, the arranging part 12 must move with the assembly (refer to column 3, lines 66-67 to column 4, line 1).

In response, Applicants submit that to move along a vicinity of a component means to move with respect to the component. Here, in claim 1, the carriage part moves along, or with respect to, the supply arranging part. Since, as the Examiner acknowledges, the housing part 12 of Wilson is part of the carriage assembly 18, clearly the carriage part 18 of Wilson does not move along a vicinity of the housing part 12. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicants maintain that Wilson does not anticipate claim 1.

Applicants submit that dependent claims 2, 3, and 5-8 are patentable at least by virtue of their direct or indirect dependency from independent claim 1.

Further, Applicants submit that Wilson does not disclose or suggest that the carriage part moves with respect to the supply unit arranging part during an ejection operation when the liquid ejection head ejects liquid, as recited in claim 7. That is, as the Examiner acknowledges, the housing part 12 is part of carriage assembly 18 of Wilson, therefore, clearly, the carriage assembly 18 does not move with respect to, or in relation to, the housing part 12. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicants submit that Wilson does not anticipate claim 7.

Applicants submit that claim 8 is patentable for reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 7.

With respect to independent claims 9 and 17, these claims are amended, as indicated herein, to incorporate the allowable features of allowable claims 10 and 18, respectively. Therefore, it is believed that claims 9 and 17 are in condition for allowance.

Applicant submits that dependent claims 11-13 and 19 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies from independent claims 9 and 17.

§103(a) Rejections (Wilson/Murata) - Claims 14 and 15

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U. S. Application No. 10/695,446

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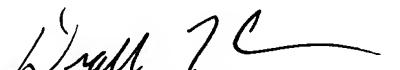
Claims 14 and 15 rejected for the reasons set forth on pages 7-8 of the present Office Action.

Applicants submit that dependent claims 14 and 15 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency from independent claim 9 (which is amended as indicated herein to incorporate the allowable features of claim 10).

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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